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Geneva, 12 March 1990
Agenda item 8 (b)

OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING ACTION BY THE BOARD ARISING FROM OR RELATED TO REPORTS AND ACTIVITIES OF ITS SUBSIDIARY AND OTHER BODIES

Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. The nineteenth session of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget was held at Geneva from 12 to 16 February 1990.

2. At its 94th plenary meeting, on 16 February 1990, the Working Party adopted agreed conclusions on agenda items 3 and 4 which are reproduced in the annex to this note.

3. After the adoption of the agreed conclusions, statements were made by the representatives of Peru, on behalf of the Group of 77; the German Democratic Republic, on behalf of Group D; the United States of America, on behalf of Group B; and China. Statements were also made by the representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); and the representative of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD.

4. At the same meeting, the Working Party approved the provisional agenda for its twentieth session (TD/B/WP/L.60).

5. The Working Party adopted the draft report on its nineteenth session (TD/B/WP/L.58) without amendment.

6. The final report of the Working Party on its nineteenth session will be issued in TD/B/1250-TD/B/WP/69.

Annex

AGREED CONCLUSIONS ADOPTED BY THE WORKING PARTY ON THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN AND PROGRAMME BUDGET AT ITS NINETEENTH SESSION

Review of the technical assistance activities of UNCTAD

Report by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on the work of the secretariat on programme evaluation

The Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report on technical co-operation activities of UNCTAD (TD/B/WP/68 and Add.1); and the report of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on programme evaluation in UNCTAD (TD/B/1225);

2. Reaffirms the agreed conclusions adopted by the Working Party at its fourteenth and sixteenth sessions and requests the UNCTAD secretariat to continue implementation thereof;

3. Expresses its appreciation to the secretariat for the demonstrations on technical co-operation software information systems given during the course of the Working Party and requests the secretariat to continue these demonstrations at future sessions of the Working Party dealing with technical assistance;

4. Takes note with appreciation of UNCTAD's continuing efforts to strengthen its co-operation with United Nations agencies and other bodies in the area of technical co-operation;

5. Welcomes UNCTAD's intention to maintain and develop a programme of technical co-operation of high quality, relevance and effectiveness;

6. Recommends to the Trade and Development Board that future reports of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on programme evaluation be submitted solely to the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget, on a biennial basis, and subsequently made available with the report of the Working Party to the Trade and Development Board;

7. Decides that, in future, the review of UNCTAD's technical co-operation activities be carried out on a biennial basis together with the review on programme evaluation.